

OTRF Notches Research Funding Record

Through record fund raising and joint partnerships, the OTRF is excited to announce that it will invest a record \$175,000 in turf research in 2010. With seven new research projects commencing and an additional five underway, 2010 marks the highest level of turfgrass research funding achieved by the OTRF in our 30 year history.

The scientific research projects selected for funding address some of the current turfgrass management issues facing our industry key stake holders. Through a comprehensive review of submitted applications, the OTRF Board selected several research projects that will address the regulations set out by the Ontario cosmetic pesticide ban. With the assistance of the Ministry of Environment and the Agricultural Adaptation Council, new methodologies of controlling insect infestations and weed control will be studied for inclusion in future turfgrass management that is compliant with the new restrictions. A management regime for a revived grass cultivar for use in home lawns and athletic fields holds promise for turf management without the use of commercial pesticides. With the changes in management of natural sports playing fields and the unknown long term impact of use on synthetic turf, comes the potential for chronic injury risks to players. The OTRF in conjunction with the Sports Turf Association are proud to support this project that will study the potential risk of acute and chronic injuries based on playing surface selection. **Along with a donation from the Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario, support will also be granted for the long term effects of soil and nutrient loss/gain from continuous use of commercial sod production in Ontario.** In addition, the OTRF in partnerships with the Golf Association of Ontario, Ontario Golf Superintendents Association, National Golf Course Owners Association, Landscape Ontario and the Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation, proudly supports continuing projects on turfgrass diseases, fertilization and irrigation methods. Innovative research outcomes will assist turf managers and home owners in their grass management regime.

The OTRF invite you to join our Board of Directors and Advisors in congratulating our financial donors. The OTRF is pleased to announce that a record \$175,000 can be allocated to support turfgrass research in Canada in 2010.